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Dated: November 15, 2006 Signature: *Marian Christopher*
Marian Christopher

Docket No.: 524412000710
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Lee A. BULLA, Jr. et al.

Application No.: 10/682,044

Filed: October 8, 2003

For: MICROBIAL EXOPOLYSACCHARIDE AND
USES THEREOF

Confirmation No.: 8148

Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: Susan Marie Hanley

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE --
EXAMINING GROUP 1651

OK
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12/1/06
frank
MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein, mailed 19 September 2006, time for response to which was set to expire 19 December 2006.. This response is submitted within two months of the mailing date of the final rejection, and thus expedited procedure is requested. The considered claims, claims 17-25, were rejected.

Applicants appreciate the thoughtful discussion provided by Examiner Hanley at an interview with undersigned on 18 October 2006.